



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
www.ladpw.org

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **B-2**

July 29, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**FINDINGS AND ORDERS OF THE BUILDING REHABILITATION
APPEALS BOARD
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2
3 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board which provide for abatement of public nuisance at the following locations:

15011 South Atlantic Avenue, Compton
1033 West 120th Street, Los Angeles
1152 East 82nd Street, Los Angeles

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, the Building Code, provides for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures contained in Chapter 99. The Building Code also provides for a Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board, appointed by your Board, for the purpose of hearing appeals on matters concerning public nuisances.

Government Code Section 25845 requires that the property owners be provided an opportunity to appear before the Board and be heard prior to abatement of the nuisance by the County. However, your Board adopted modified procedures which delegated the required hearing to the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board with the requirement that

the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board make a written recommendation to your Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action meets the County's Strategic Plan Goals of Service Excellence and Children and Families' Well-Being as it provides services to the public that have a wide-reaching positive effect on the entire community. The action will provide for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions which constitute a public nuisance. It will require the repair or demolition of substandard structures and the removal of trash, junk, debris, inoperable vehicles, and overgrown vegetation from private property.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

No negative fiscal impact or increase in net County cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board has conducted the required hearing for the properties listed below. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board considered all competent evidence and testimony offered by all persons pertaining to the matters of substandard properties. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding of facts in the matter and declared the following properties to be a public nuisance.

Your Board may either adopt these findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board without further notice of hearing or may set the matter for a de novo hearing before your Board.

ADDRESS: 15011 South Atlantic Avenue, Compton

FINDING AND ORDERS: The Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) That the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all excessive vegetation by August 20, 2004, and maintained cleared thereafter. (b) That the abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) be removed by August 20, 2004.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. Overgrown vegetation, weeds, and debris constituting an unsightly appearance or a danger to public safety and welfare.
3. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
4. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
5. Trash and junk scattered about the premises.
6. Garbage cans and packing crates stored in front or side yards and visible from public streets.
7. Trailers, campers, and other mobile equipment stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.
8. Abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 1033 West 120th Street, Los Angeles

FINDING AND ORDERS: The Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) That the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all excessive vegetation by August 20, 2004, and maintained cleared thereafter. (b) That the structure(s) be maintained secure to prevent unauthorized entry. (c) That the structure(s) be repaired per noted defects or demolished by September 9, 2004. Demolition includes the removal of all foundations, slabs, walks, driveways, debris, and the proper abandonment of any sewer or sewage disposal system.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. The building is open and accessible to juveniles and transients and is a health, fire, and safety hazard to the adjacent community. The building or structure must be secured or closed forthwith so as to prevent unauthorized persons from gaining access thereto.*
3. The building is dilapidated, apparently abandoned, and fire-damaged.
4. Doors and windows are broken.
5. The roof covering over the entire building has been fire-damaged.
6. The interior walls and wall covering are fire-damaged.
7. The ceiling joists and covering are fire-damaged.
8. The required heating appliance is lacking.
9. The electrical service is unsafe due to fire damage.
10. Electrical wiring is unsafe due to fire damage.
11. The premises contain attractive nuisances dangerous to children, i.e., abandoned or broken equipment, furniture, appliances, and junk.

***The following option was given to the owner**

"If, in your opinion, the building or structure is sufficiently secured or closed, or for any other reason you cannot comply with Item Number 2 on this 'List of Defects,' you may request a hearing within ten days of receipt of this notice. If the required work is not performed within ten days after service of this notice and if a timely demand for a hearing is not made, the County may perform the work at the expense of the said owner."

ADDRESS: 1152 East 82nd Street, Los Angeles

FINDING AND ORDERS: The Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) That the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all excessive vegetation by August 20, 2004, and maintained cleared thereafter. (b) That the structure(s) be maintained secure to prevent unauthorized entry. (c) That the structure(s) be repaired per noted defects by September 9, 2004. Demolition includes the removal of all foundations, slabs, walks, driveways, debris, and the proper abandonment of any sewer or sewage disposal system.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. The building was open and accessible to children and existed as a fire hazard and a threat to public safety and welfare, until it was barricaded.
3. Doors and windows are broken.
4. The electrical service is unsafe.
5. Electrical wiring on the exterior is unsafe.
6. The premises contain attractive nuisances dangerous to children, i.e., abandoned or broken equipment, tires, and furniture.
7. Overgrown vegetation, weeds, and debris constituting an unsightly appearance or a danger to public safety and welfare.

Portions of the interior of the building were not accessible for inspection; therefore, additional defects may be found when an interior inspection is made.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Not applicable.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
July 29, 2004
Page 6

CONCLUSION

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board confirmed the County Building Official's findings that the listed properties are substandard because they are injurious to health, offensive to the senses, and obstruct the free use of neighboring property so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property.

At such time as this recommendation is adopted, please return an approved copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES
Director of Public Works

CC:pc
P:REHAB/BOARDLET/FO2

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel